

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 EA-06 INT-05 PM-03 CIAE-00 INR-07

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 802

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3078

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNDP, EAID, TQ

SUBJ: UNDP - ASSIGNMENT OF EXPERTS TO TTPI

REFS: (A) STATE 140442; (B) USUN 2025

1. THIS MSG KEYED TO QUESTIONS RAISED REFTEL A; ALSO KEYED TO SITUATION CURRENTLY PLANNED FOR PROPOSED TTPI DEVELOPMENT PLANNING PROJECT. AS CURRENTLY ENVISAGED THIS PROJECT IS TO BE COMPRISED OF FOUR SENIOR EXPERTS AND FIVE ASSOCIATE EXPERTS.

2. YES, ALL EXPERTS, WHETHER SENIOR OR ASSOCIATE, ASSIGNED TO A RECIPIENT COUNTRY ARE APPROVED IN ADVANCE BY HOST GOVERNMENT. ONE OF TWO ROUTES GENERALLY FOLLOWED. FIRST ROUTE IS FOR HOST GOVERNMENT TO PICK BY NAME A CANDIDATE FOR EACH POSITION, THE SELECTION TO BE MADE FROM CURRICULUM VITAE PROVIDED BY EXECUTING AGENCY (USUALLY 2-5 FOR EACH POSITION). THIS ROUTE HAS ADVANTAGE OF SPEEDING UP RECRUITMENT CONSIDERABLY. SECOND ROUTE IS FOR EXECUTING AGENCY TO CIRCULATE JOB DESCRIPTIONS TO MEMBER GOVERNMENTS OF UN AND AWAIT REPLIES. ONCE REPLIES ARE IN HOST COUNTRY IS PROVIDED CV'S ON A STANDARD UN FORM, FROM WHICH HOST GOVERNMENT MAKES SELECTION. THIS ROUTE HAS DISADVANTAGE OF LENGTHENING RECRUITMENT PROCESS, SINCE ONE MONTH GENERALLY ALLOWED FOR CIRCULATION OF JOB DESCRIPTION AND TWO MONTHS TO RECEIVE REPLIES. IN EITHER CASE HOST COUNTRY MAKES CHOICE, INCLUDING OPTION OF TURNING DOWN ALL PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES. PRESENT PLAN IS FOR TRUSK, PROJECT MANAGER, TO GO FIRST ROUTE WITH RESPECT

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TTPI PROJECT, FOR FIVE ASSOCIATE EXPERTS AND THREE SENIOR

EXPERTS (FOURTH SENIOR EXPERT IS HIMSELF, WHO ALREADY "NAME-PICKED" BY TTPI GOVERNMENT). ONLY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RECRUITMENT OF SENIOR EXPERTS AND ASSOCIATE EXPERTS IS THAT NATIONALITY OF ASSOCIATE EXPERTS IS CONFINED TO THOSE COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN THE ASSOCIATE EXPERTS PROGRAM, SINCE COST OF THESE EXPERTS IS BORNE BY PARTICIPATING COUNTRY OUT OF THEIR OWN FOREIGN AID BUDGETS, NOT UNDP FUNDS. COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN ASSOCIATE EXPERT PROGRAMS ARE: SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES, FRG, THE NETHERLANDS, JAPAN, PERHAPS ONE OR TWO MORE BUT NONE EAST EUROPEAN. (COMMENT: UN HAS SOME QUALMS OVER RECEPTIVITY OF COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN ASSOCIATE EXPERTS PROGRAM, SINCE THEY MAY BALK AT THEIR FOREIGN AID FUNDS BEING USED IN TERRITORY ADMINISTERED BY THE US. SHOULD THIS HAPPEN RECRUITMENT FOR THESE POSITIONS MAY BE BROADENED.) IT SHOULD ALSO BE NOTED THAT REJECTION BY HOST COUNTRY OF CANDIDATE OR CANDIDATES REQUIRES NO JUSTIFICATION; BUT IT POSSIBLE THAT IF ALL CANDIDATES REJECTED THAT UN MIGHT INQUIRE AS TO REASONS WITH VIEW TO SEEING IF IT FAILING TO PROVIDE QUALIFIED PEOPLE.

3. SINCE ADVANCE APPROVAL OF EXPERTS IS ROUTINE THERE APPEARS TO BE NO NEED TO SEEK EXCEPTIONS FOR TTPI.

4. YES, THERE IS A PRECEDENT FOR BLANKET RESTRICTION ON ASSIGNMENTS OF PARTICULAR NATIONALITIES TO UNDP PROJECTS. CASES IN POINT, HOWEVER, GENERALLY ARE NOT IN WRITING BUT HAVE EVOLVED OUT OF INFORMAL UNDERSTANDINGS BETWEEN HOST GOVERNMENTS AND UNDP RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE, WHO INVARIABLY ACTS AS GO-BETWEEN BETWEEN HOST GOVERNMENT AND EXECUTING AGENCY. SUCH INFORMAL RESTRICTIONS PERTAIN NOT ONLY TO REJECTION OF CERTAIN NATIONALITIES BUT OFTEN TO GENERAL COMPOSITION OF EXPERT GROUPS (SOME COUNTRIES, FOR EXAMPLE, WANT REASONABLE GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION) OR TO SELECTION OF CERTAIN NATIONALITY FOR TEAM LEADER, ETC. SHOULD A HOST GOVERNMENT WISH TO FORMALIZE ITS DESIRES REGARDING NATIONALITIES IT SHOULD SO STATE IN WRITING TO APPROPRIATE UNDP RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE, BUT AS NOTED ABOVE THIS GENERALLY HANDLED INFORMALLY. (WE DO NOT CONSIDER IT NECESSARY AND RECOMMEND AGAINST.)

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5. YES, RESTRICTIONS, EITHER FORMAL OR INFORMAL, WOULD BE HONORED BY UNDP AND EXECUTING AGENCY.

6. COMMENT: AS NOTED REFTEL B, TRUSK IS PLANNING FIELD TRIP MONTH OF JULY. DESTINATION IS BANGKOK. HE PREPARED TO GO VIA SAIPAN, WITH ETA SAIPAN JULY 9, PROVIDING HE HAS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE A SIGNED PROJECT PROPOSAL, WHICH

WOULD CONSTITUTE HIS AUTHORITY TO PROCEED. HE PREPARED  
TO HAND-CARRY NAMES AND CV'S OF PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES  
FOR ALL SENIOR AND ASSOCIATE EXPERT POSITIONS, WITH VIEW  
TOWARD HOST GOVERNMENT SUBSEQUENTLY NOTIFYING RESIDENT  
REPRESENTATIVE OF SELECTION. FROM TRUSK'S POINT OF VIEW  
THIS BEST WAY TO PROCEED BECAUSE IT SHORTENS RECRUITMENT  
PROCESS (SEE PARA 2) AND BECAUSE IT WOULD GIVE GREATER  
ASSURANCE THAT SELECTED CANDIDATES WOULD NOT PICK UP CONTRACTS  
ELSEWHERE, THUS SCRATCHING THEM AS CANDIDATES FOR  
TTPI PROJECT. THIS PROCEDURE ALSO MIGHT BE  
ADVANTAGEOUS TO USG, NOT ONLY BY EXPEDITING PROJECT  
EXECUTION, BUT BY KEEPING THE LIST OF CANDIDATES MORE TIGHTLY  
CONTROLLED, WHICH USUN ASSUMES IS IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION.  
KEY TO THIS PROCEDURE IS TO HAVE SIGNED PROJECT PROPOSAL  
IN NYC AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. END COMMENT.  
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